

Organic Data Review for Low Concentration Water
CLP/SOW, OLC03.2



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Annual Review

Reviewed by: _____ Date: _____

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INTRODUCTION

Scope and Applicability

This SOP offers detailed guidance in evaluating laboratory data generated according to the methods in the "USEPA Contract Laboratory Program Statement of Work Pages for Organics Analysis Low Concentration Water OLC03.2," December 2000. The validation methods and actions discussed in this document are based on the requirements set forth in the "USEPA Contract Laboratory Program National Functional Guidelines for Organic Data Review," June 2001. This document attempts to cover technical as well as contractual problems specific to each fraction; however, situations may arise where data limitations must be assessed based on the reviewer's own professional judgement.

In addition to technical requirements, contractual requirements are also covered in this document. While it is important that instances of contract non-compliance be addressed in the Data Assessment, the technical criteria are always used to qualify the analytical data.

Summary

To ensure a thorough evaluation of each result in a data case, the reviewer must complete the checklist within this SOP, answering specific questions while performing the prescribed "ACTIONS" in each section. Qualifiers (or flags) are applied to questionable or unusable results as instructed. The data qualifiers discussed in this document are as follows:

Data Qualifiers

- U - The analyte was analyzed for, but was not detected above the reported sample quantitation limit.
- J - The analyte was positively identified; the associated numerical value is the approximate concentration of the analyte in the sample.
- N - The analysis indicates the presence of an analyte for which there is presumptive evidence to make a "tentative identification."
- JN - The analysis indicates the presence of an analyte that has been "tentatively identified" and the associated numerical value represents its approximate concentration.

- UJ - The analyte was not detected above the reported sample quantitation limit. However, the reported quantitation limit is approximate and may or may not represent the actual limit of quantitation necessary to accurately and precisely measure the analyte in the sample.
- R - The sample results are rejected due to serious deficiencies in the ability to analyze the sample and meet quality control criteria. The presence or absence of the analyte cannot be verified.

Lab Qualifiers:

- D - The positive value is the result of an analysis at a secondary dilution factor.
- B - The analyte is present in the associated method blank as well as in the sample. This qualifier has a different meaning when validating inorganic data.
- E - The concentration of this analyte exceeds the calibration range of the instrument.
- P - Pesticide/Aroclor target analytes when the % Difference between the analyte concentrations obtained from the two dissimilar GC columns is greater than 25%.

The reviewer must prepare a detailed data assessment to be submitted along with the completed SOP checklist. The Data Assessment must list all data qualifications, reasons for qualifications, instances of missing data and contract non-compliance.

Reviewer Qualifications:

Data reviewers must possess a working knowledge of the USEPA Statement of Work OLC03.2 and National Functional Guidelines mentioned above.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

USEPA Region II

Method: CLP/SOW, OLC03.2

Date: Semtember 2006

SOP HW-13, Revision 3

S))))))

• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	YES	NO	N/A
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• • • • •

2.3 Are there any discrepancies between the Traffic Reports/Chain-of-Custody Records, Sampling Trip Report and Sample Tags?

_____ [] _____

ACTION: If yes, contact the TOPO to obtain an explanation or resubmittal of any missing deliverables from the laboratory.

3.0 Cover Letter SDG Narrative

3.1 Is the SDG Narrative or Cover Letter Present?

3.2 Are case number, SDG number and contract number contained in the SDG Narrative or cover letter (see SOW, Exhibit B, section 2.5.1)?

EPA sample numbers in the SDG, detailed documentation of any quality control, sample, shipment, and/or analytical problems encountered in processing the samples? Corrective action taken?

3.3 Does the Narrative contain the following information (see SOW, page B-12, section 2.5.1):

VOA: description or trap and column(s) used during sample analyses?

BNA: description of column(s) used during sample analyses?

PEST: description of columns used during sample analyses?

NOTE: As stated in the SOW, page D-11/PEST, section 6.10.1.3.7, packed columns cannot be used.

3.4 Does the narrative, VOA and BNA sections, contain a list of all TICs identified as alkanes and their estimated concentrations?

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Date: Semtember 2006
SOP HW-13, Revision 3

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Date: Semtember 2006
SOP HW-13, Revision 3

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VOLATILE DEUTERATED MONITORING COMPOUND RECOVERY LIMITS

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STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

USEPA Region II

Method: CLP/SOW, OLC03.2

Date: Semtember 2006

SOP HW-13, Revision 3

[illegible]

. YES NO N/A

• • • • •

- | | | |
|-----|--|--|
| 7.1 | Are the GC/MS Instrument Performance Check Forms (Form V-LCV) present for Bromofluorobenzene (BFB)? | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7.2 | Are the enhanced bar graph spectrum and mass/charge (m/z) listing for the BFB provided for each twelve hour shift? | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7.3 | Has an instrument performance compound been analyzed for every twelve hours of sample analysis per instrument? | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> |

ACTION: List date, time, instrument ID and sample analyses for which associated GC/MS tuning data are missing.

DATE	TIME	INSTRUMENT	ID	SAMPLE NUMBERS
------	------	------------	----	----------------

ACTION: Notify the TOPO to obtain missing data from the lab.
If the lab cannot provide missing data, reject (R) all data generated outside an acceptable twelve hour calibration interval.

- 7.4 Have the ion abundances been normalized to m/z 95
(see SOW, page D-24/VOA)?

NOTE: All ion abundance ratios must be normalized to m/z 95, the nominal base peak, even though the ion abundance of m/z 174 may be up to 120% that of m/z 95.

ACTION: If mass assignment is in error, qualify all associated data as unusable (R).

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YES NO N/A

ACTION: If large errors exist, take action as specified in section 3.1 above.

ACTION: When a sample is analyzed at more than one dilution, the lowest CRQLs are used (unless a QC exceedance dictates the use of the higher CRQLs from the diluted sample). Replace concentrations which exceed the calibration range in the original analysis by crossing out the "E" value on the original Form I and substituting it with the result from the diluted sample. Specify which Form I is to be used, then draw a red "X" across the entire page of all Form I's that should not be used, including those in the data summary package.

ACTION: Quantitation limits affected by large, off-scale peaks should be qualified as unusable (R). If the interference is on-scale, the reviewer may offer an approximated quantitation limit (UJ) for each affected compound.

NOTE: If a sample required greater than a 10 times dilution, then a 10 times more concentrated analysis must also be performed and submitted (see SOW, page D-41/PEST, section 10.2.3.5).

ACTION: If a more concentrated analysis is unavailable, document in the Contract Problems/Non-Compliance section of the Data Assessment. Use professional judgement to qualify non-detects and positive hits below the CRQL.

14.0 Field Duplicates

14.1 Were any field duplicates submitted for Pest/Aroclor analysis?

 1

ACTION: Compare the reported results for field duplicates and calculate the relative percent difference.

ACTION: Any gross variation between field duplicate results must be addressed in the reviewer narrative. If large differences exist, contact the TOPO to confirm identification of field duplicates with the sampler.

Definitions

BFB - bromofluorobenzene
BHC - benzene hexachloride
BNA - base neutral acid
CADRE - Computer Aided Data Review and Evaluation
CARD - CLP Analytical Results Database
CCS - contract compliance screening
CLASS - Contract Laboratory Analytical Services Support
CLP - Contract Laboratory Program
CRQL - Contract Required Quantitation Limit
DCB -decachlorobiphenyl
DDD - dichlorodiphenyldichloroethane
DDE - dichlorodiphenylethane
DDT - dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane
GC - gas chromatography
GC/EC - gas chromatography/electron capture detector
GC/MS - gas chromatography/mass spectroscopy
GPC - gel permeation chromatography
kg - kilogram
µg - microgram
MAGIC - Mainframe Access Graphical Interface with CARD
ℓ - liter
LCS - Laboratory Control Sample
LES - Laboratory Evaluation Sample
mℓ - milliliter
PCB - Polychlorinated Biphenyl
PEM - Performance Evaluation Mixture
QC - quality control
RAS - Routine Analytical Services
RIC - reconstructed ion chromatogram
RPD - relative percent difference
RRF - relative response factor
RRF - average relative response factor (from initial calibration)
RRT - relative retention time
RSD - relative standard deviation
RT - retention time
RSCC - Regional Sample Control Center
SDG - sample delivery group
SMC - system monitoring compound
SOP - standard operating procedure
SOW - Statement of Work
SVOA - semivolatile organic acid
TCL - Target Compound List
TCLP - Toxicity Characteristics Leachate Procedure
TCX -tetrachloro-m-xylene
TIC - tentatively identified compound
TPO - technical project officer
VOA - volatile organic acid

VTSR - validated time of sample receipt
TOPO - Task Order Project Officer

References

SOW/CLP OLC03.2

National Functional Guidelines (June 2001)

PACKAGE COMPLETENESS AND DELIVERABLES

CASE NUMBER: _____

SDG(s): _____

SITE: _____

LAB: _____

This Region II SOP document is based on Method TO-15: Determination of Volatile Organics Compounds (VOCs) in Air Collected in Specially-Prepared Canisters & Analyzed by Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry, January 1999.

1.0 Data Completeness and Deliverables

- 1.1 Have any missing deliverables been received
and added to the data package?

☐ ___ ___

ACTION: Contact lab for explanation/resubmittal of any
 missing deliverables. If lab cannot provide
 them, note the effect under "Contract Problems/
 Non-Compliance" section of data assessment report.

2.0 Cover Letter, Narrative, and Data Reporting Forms

- 2.1 Is the Lab. Narrative and Cover Page present?

☐ ___ ___

- 2.2 Is Case Number contained in the Narrative?

☐ ___ ___

- 2.3 Are the following Data Reporting Forms present?

Analysis Data Sheet [Form I/Equivalent]

☐ ___ ___

Tentatively Identified Compounds [Form I-TIC]

☐ ___ ___

Blank Summary [Form IV/Equivalent]

☐ ___ ___

Laboratory Control Sample Data Sheet
[Form III/Equivalent]

☐ ___ ___

GC/MS Instrument Performance Check and Mass
Calibration [Form V/Equivalent]

☐ ___ ___

Initial Calibration [Form VI/Equivalent] ☐ ☐ ☐

Continuing Calibration [Form VII/Equivalent] ☐ ☐ ☐

Internal Standard Area and RT Summary
[Form VIII/Equivalent] ☐ ☐ ☐

Canister Certification [Form IX/Equivalent] ☐ ☐ ☐

3.0 Canister Receipt/Log-in Sheet

Receipt of each canister is recorded in a laboratory notebook dedicated to this use. The sample receipt/log-in sheet must demonstrate that the information on custody records, traffic reports, and sample tags agree for each sample.

3.1 Do all info items agree with each sample ? ☐ ☐ ☐

ACTION: If these documents are not consistent, contact Project officer or laboratory and attach a record of resolution.

4.0 Traffic Reports and Laboratory Narrative

4.1 Are the Traffic Report Forms present for all samples? ☐ ☐ ☐

ACTION: If no, contact lab for replacement of missing or illegible copies.

5.0 Holding Times

5.1 Have any VOA technical holding times of 30 days, determined from the date of sample collection to the date of analysis, been exceeded? ☐ ☐ ☐

NOTE: The contract requires that samples must be retained from verified time sample receipt (VTSR) until 45 days after delivery of a complete sample data package to the Agency.

VOA Table of Holding Time Violations

Sample ID	Sample Matrix	Date Lab Received	Date Analyzed
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

ACTION: If technical holding times have been exceeded, flag all results unusable ("R").

6.0 Leak Test Evaluation

6.1 All canisters are leak tested prior to each sampling use.
Form IX/Equivalent - summarizes the canister certification for each canister. The initial gauge pressure should be approximately 206 kPa (30 psi) with zero air.

Did the pressure test not vary by more than ± 13.8 kPa (± 2 psi) over the 24 hours period?

____ ____
—

ACTION: If the canister does not meet the leak-tight criteria all results should be flagged "R".

7.0 Canister Certification Form IX/Equivalent

7.1 Blank Analysis

All canisters have to be checked after cleaning.

Were the target analytes < the required detection limits specified in the task order?

 ____ —

Note: Samples with large amount of non target analytes can be valid as long as this criterion is met for target analytes.

ACTION: If the lab failed to do so, it should be noted under contract non-compliance, and laboratory should be notified. Use Table 1 below to qualify samples with target compounds results also present in certification blanks.

Certification Contamination

TABLE 1

Certification Contamination	Sample Result	Action for Sample
\geq detect limit specified in task order	$> 5X$ certification contamination	No qualification required
\geq detect limit specified in task order	$<$ detect limit specified in task order	detection limit with U
\geq detect limit specified in task order	\geq detect limit and $\leq 5X$ certification contamination level	5X certification contamination with U
$<$ detect limit specified in task order	\leq detection limit and \geq detection limit	no qualification

7.2 Is the canister certification form provided, and the associated canister sample identification included? When contamination, included contamination detected

(all raw data), analyte and reference mass spectra. ☐ ☐ ☐

ACTION: If no, have EPA project officer/TOPO contact laboratory for missing documents.

8.0 Laboratory Control Samples

8.1 Is an LCS Data Sheet (Form III/Equivalent) present and complete for each LCS? ☐ ☐ ☐

8.2 Was an LCS prepared (10ppbv total scan) (0.1ppbv SIM) and analyzed at the required frequency (once per 24 hour analytical sequence, and concurrently with the samples in the SDG)? ☐ ☐ ☐

ACTION: Call lab for explanation/resubmittals. If missing deliverables or information is unavailable, document the effect in the data assessment.

8.3 Are there any transcription/calculation errors between the raw data and Form III/Equivalent? Check LCS target compound recoveries. ☐ ☐ ☐

ACTION: If large errors exist, call lab for explanation/resubmittal, make necessary corrections and document the effects in the data assessment.

8.4 Is the % recovery within 70-130 % for each LCS target compound reported on Form III/Equivalent? ☐ ☐ ☐

ACTION: Professional judgement should be used to qualify the impact on sample data, if the recoveries are outside the given limits.

8.5 Is the RT of each reported LCS compound within the windows established during the most recent valid calibration? ☐ ☐ ☐

If the most recent calibration is the initial calibration use mid level standard (10 ppbv).

ACTION: Professional judgement should be used to qualify sample data, if retention times differ by more than 20 seconds.

8.6 Do the Internal Standards meet the requirements specified in Sections 18.1 and 18.2?

ACTION: If not, see Sections 18.1 and 18.2.

ACTION: Circle outliers in red.

ACTION: Always use professional judgement. If qualification is necessary, follow the criteria below and in Table 2.

1. If any LCS compounds are outside the specified limits, the associated sample results for the outlying compounds should be qualified as indicated in Table 2 below.
2. If the absolute RT for any LCS compound is outside the established windows, then qualify positive results and non-detects in the associated environmental sample data for that LCS compound(s) (See Table 2). All non-LCS compounds should be qualified using professional judgement.

Laboratory Control Samples
TABLE 2

The following table summarizes the LCS criteria and the data qualification guidelines for all associated field samples.

LCS	<u>NOT</u> <u>QUALIF</u> <u>IED</u>	<u>J</u>	<u>R</u>
% RECOVERY			
Detects	70 - 130%	< 70%, > 130%	
Non-detects	≥ 130%	50 - 69%	< 50%
ABSOLUTE RT OF LCS COMPOUNDS			

LCS Compounds
in
samples ± 0.33 $> \pm 0.33$
RT: (min)

9.0 GC/MS Instrument Performance Check

9.1 Are the GC/MS Instrument Performance Check

Forms (Form V/Equivalent) present for
Bromofluorobenzene (BFB)? ☐ ☐ ☐

9.2 Are the enhanced bar graph spectrum and
mass/charge (m/z) listing for the 50 ng BFB
provided for each twenty four hour shift? ☐ ☐ ☐

9.3 Has the instrument performance compound been
analyzed for every twenty four hours of sample
analysis per instrument? ☐ ☐ ☐

ACTION: List date, time, instrument ID, and sample analysis
for which no associated GC/MS
tuning data are available.

DATE	TIME	INSTRUMENT	SAMPLE NUMBERS
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

ACTION: If lab cannot provide missing data, reject ("R") all
data generated outside an acceptable twelve hour
calibration interval.

9.4 Have the ion abundances been normalized to
m/z 95? ☐ ☐ ☐

ACTION: If mass assignment is in error, qualify all
associated data as unusable (R).

9.5 Have the ion abundance criteria been met for each instrument used? ☐ ☐ ☐

ACTION: List all data which do not meet ion abundance criteria (attach a separate sheet).

ACTION: If ion abundance criteria are not met, the Region II TPO must be notified.

9.6 Are there any transcription/calculation errors between mass lists and Form Vs? (Check at least two values but if errors are found, check more.) ☐ ☐ ☐

9.7 Have the appropriate number of significant figures (two) been reported? ☐ ☐ ☐

ACTION: If large errors exist, call lab for explanation/resubmittal, make necessary corrections and document effect in data assessments.

9.8 Are the spectra of the mass calibration compound acceptable? ☐ ☐ ☐

ACTION: Use professional judgement to determine whether associated data should be accepted, or qualified.

10.0 Performance Evaluation Sample (Optional)

10.1 The PE sample will assist the Agency in monitoring Contractor performance. The lab will not be informed as to which compounds are contained in the PE samples or the concentrations. Was a PE sample submitted from the Agency with each SDG? ☐ ☐ ☐

10.2 PE samples must be validated like environmental samples. There is no holding time for PE samples. If the data results do not comply with the Agencies' spike results use professional judgement together with other QC criteria in order to determine usability of the other data in the SDG. If the associated data was rejected because of PE results, the EPA technical project officer must be notified.

10.3 Do the Internal Standards meet the requirements specified in Sections 18.1 and 18.2? ☐ ___

ACTION: If not, see Sections 18.1 and 18.2.

11.0 Laboratory Method Blanks

11.1 Is an Analysis Data Sheet (Form IV/Equivalent) present and complete for each method blank? ☐ ___

11.2 Frequency of analysis:

Has a method blank analysis been reported per instrument for each 24-hour analytical sequence? ☐ ___

Has a method blank been analyzed after the initial calibration or a valid calibration check standard, and before the LCS, prior to sample analysis? ☐ ___

ACTION: If any blank data are missing, call lab for explanation/resubmittals. If missing deliverables are unavailable, reject ("R") all positive data.

11.3 Chromatography: review the blank raw data - chromatograms, quant reports and data system printouts. Is the chromatographic performance (baseline stability) for each instrument acceptable? ☐ ___

ACTION: Use professional judgement to determine the effect on the data.

11.4 Were the area response of each Internal Standards (IS) in the blank within $\pm 40\%$ of the mean area response of the IS of the most recent valid calibration? ☐ ___

Were the RT of each IS within ± 0.33 min (20 sec.) between blanks & most recent valid calibration ☐ ___

ACTION: If not, see section 18.1 and 18.2.

12.0 Blank Contamination

12.1 Do any method blanks have positive target and non-target VOA results ?

___ [] ___

ACTION: Use Table 3 below to qualify samples with target compound results also present in the associated blank. Use the largest value from all the associated method blanks if more than one method blank was run.

VOA Laboratory Blanks
TABLE 3

Samples	Not Qualified	non detect U
Target Compounds	> 5X Blank value	≤ 5X Blank Level*

* If sample result is also less than CRQL, report as not detected (U) at [CRQL].
Note that the dilution factor has to be taken into account when calculating the Blank Level.

13.0 Target Compound Analytes

13.1 Are the Organic Analysis Data Sheets (Form I-, Equivalent), VOA chromatograms, and data system printouts present and complete with required header information for each of the following:

- a. Samples?
- b. Method blanks?
- c. Laboratory Control Sample (LCS)?
- d. Performance Evaluation Sample (PES)?

[] ___ ___
[] ___ ___
[] ___ ___
[] ___ ___

ACTION: If any data are missing, take action specified in 1.1 above.

13.2 Is chromatographic performance acceptable with respect to:

- a. Baseline stability?
- b. Resolution?
- c. Peak shape?
- d. Full-scale graph (attenuation)?
- e. Other:

[] ___ ___
[] ___ ___
[] ___ ___
[] ___ ___
[] ___ ___

13.3 Were any electropositive displacement (negative peaks) or unusual peaks seen?

___ [] ___

ACTION: Use professional judgement to determine the acceptability of the data. Address comments under "System Performance" section of data assessment.

13.4 Is the sample component relative retention time (RRT) within ± 0.06 RRT units of the RRT of the standard component from the most recent continuing calibration?

☐ ☐ ☐

NOTE: If the most recent calibration is a calibration curve, the mean RRT (RRT) should be used for comparison.

ACTION: If the above criteria is not met, professional judgement should be used to qualify sample data.

13.5 Was Nafion dryer used?

☐ ☐ ☐

ACTION: In cases where Nafion tubing is used to dry the sample stream, polar target and non target compounds must not be reported.

ACTION: Reject all polar compounds if reported as non detects. Polar compounds reported as positive hits should be flagged "J".

14.0 Tentatively Identified Compounds (TIC)

14.1 Are all Tentatively Identified Compound Forms (Form I-TIC) present and are retention time, estimated concentration and "JN" qualifier listed corresponding to each TIC?

☐ ☐ ☐

14.2 Are the mass spectra for the tentatively identified compounds and associated "best match" spectra included in the sample package for each of the following?

a. Samples

☐ ☐ ☐

b. Blanks

☐ ☐ ☐

ACTION: If any TIC data are missing, take action specified in 1.1 above.

ACTION: Add "JN" qualifier if missing.

14.3 Are all ions present in the reference mass spectrum with a relative intensity greater than 10% also present in the sample mass spectrum?

☐ ☐ ☐

14.4 Do TIC and "best match" standard relative ion intensities agree within 20%?

☐ ☐ ☐

ACTION: Use professional judgement to determine acceptability of TIC identifications. If it is determined that an incorrect identification was made, change identification to "unknown" or to some less specific identification (example: "C3 substituted benzene") as appropriate.

Also, when a compound is not found in any blanks, but is detected in a sample and is a suspected artifact of a common laboratory contaminant, the result should be qualified as unusable (R). (e.g., Common Lab Contaminants: CO₂ (M/E 44), Siloxanes (M/E 73), Aldol Condensation Products, Solvent Preservatives, and related by products.

15.0 Initial Calibration and System Performance (Form VI/Equivalent)

15.1 Were each GC/MS system calibrated at 5 concentrations that span the monitoring range of interest in an initial calibration sequence to determine the sensitivity and the linearity of the GC/MS response for the target compounds?

☐ ☐ ☐

ACTION: If any calibration standard forms or raw data are missing, take action specified in section 1.1 above.

15.2 Was the same volume introduced into the trap consistently for all field and QC-sample analyses?

☐ ☐ ☐

15.3 Were the area response (Y) at each calibration level within $\pm 40\%$ of the mean area response (mean Y) over the initial calibration range for each Internal Standard?

☐ ☐ ☐

Did the laboratory tabulate the area response (Y) of the primary ions and the corresponding concen-

tration for each compound and Internal Standard? ☐ ☐ ☐

ACTION: If the range exceeds $\pm 40\%$ for particular compounds, flag these compounds "J" for positive and non-detects in the associated samples. If the %RSDs exceeds $\pm 90\%$, associated sample non-detect compounds should be rejected (R) and associated hits as estimate (J).

15.4 Are the relative retention times (RRT) for each of the target compounds at each calibration level within ± 0.06 RRT units of the mean relative retention time for the compound? ☐ ☐ ☐

ACTION: If no, reject the associated sample compounds.

15.5 Are all individual RRF and average RRFs ≥ 0.050 ? ☐ ☐ ☐

NOTE: For the following compounds the individual RRF and average RRF must be ≥ 0.01 .

2-Butanone
Carbon disulfide
Chlorethane
Chlormethane
1,2-Dibromoethane
1,2-Dichloropropane
1,4-Dioxane
1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane
Methylene chloride

ACTION: Circle all outliers with red pencil.

ACTION: For any target analyte with average RRF < 0.05 , or for the requirements for the 9 compounds in 15.5 above, qualify all positive results for that analyte "J" and all non-detect results for that analyte "R".

15.6 Are response factors (RF) stable i.e. % Relative Standard Deviation (%RSD) $\leq 30.0\%$ with at most two exceptions up to limit of $\pm 40\%$? ☐ ☐ ☐

ACTION: Circle all outliers in red.

ACTION: If %RSD > 30.0%, qualify associated positive results for that analytes "J" and non-detects are not qualified. When RSD > 90%, flag all non-detects for that analytes R (unusable) and associate positive values as estimate (J).

NOTE: Analytes previously qualified "U" for blank contamination are still considered as "hits" when qualifying for initial calibration criteria.

15.7 Are there any transcription/calculation errors in the reporting of average response factors (RRFs) or %RSDs? (Check at least 2 values, but if errors are found, check more.)

___ [] ___

ACTION: If large errors exist, call lab for explanation/resubmittal, make necessary corrections and document effects in data assessment.

15.8 Are the RT shift for each Internal Standard (IS) at each calibration level within 20s of the mean RT over the initial calibration range of each IS?

[] ___ ___

16.0 Daily Calibration (Form VII/Equivalent)

16.1 Are the daily Calibration Forms (Form VII/Equivalent) present and complete for the volatile fraction?

[] ___ ___

16.2 Has a daily calibration standard (10 ppbv total scan) (0.1ppb SIM) been analyzed for every twenty four hours of sample analysis per instrument after the BFB tuning analysis?

[] ___ ___

ACTION: List below all sample analyses that were not within 24 hours of the daily calibration analysis.

ACTION: If any forms are missing or no daily calibration standard has been analyzed within 24 hours of every sample analysis, call lab for explanation/resubmittal. If daily calibration data are not available, flag all associated sample data as unusable ("R").

16.3 Do any volatile compounds have a % Difference (% D) between the initial and daily RRFs which exceed the $\pm 30\%$ criteria? _____ _____

ACTION: Circle all outliers in red.

ACTION: Qualify both positive results and non-detects for the outlier compound(s) as estimated (J). When % D is above 90%, reject non-detects as R) unusable and associated positive values (J).

16.5 Are there any transcription/calculation errors in the reporting of average response factors (RRF) or %difference (%D) between initial and daily RRFs? (Check at least two values but if errors are found, check more.) _____ _____

ACTION: Circle errors in red.

ACTION: If errors are large, call lab for explanation/resubmittal, make any necessary corrections and note errors under "Contract Non-Compliance".

17.0 Compound Quantitation and Reported Detection Limits

17.1 Are there any transcription/calculation errors in Form I results? Check at least two positive values. Verify that the correct average RRF of the initial calibration was used to calculate Form I results. _____ _____

17.2 Are the reported detection limits adjusted to reflect sample dilutions? _____ _____

ACTION: If errors are large, call lab for explanation/resubmittal, make any necessary corrections and note errors under "Contract Non-Compliance" of the data assessment.

NOTE: When a sample is analyzed at more than one dilution, the lowest CRQLs are used

(unless a QC accedence dictates the use of the higher CRQL data from the diluted sample analysis). Cross out "E" from the original analysis. Replace the concentrations in the original analysis with the ones from the diluted sample. Specify which Form I is to be used. Draw a red "X" across the entire page of all Form I's that should not be used, including any in the summary package.

17.3 Have any target compound concentrations exceeded the calibration range of the GC? ___ ___

ACTION: If yes, flag as estimated ("J").

17.4 Was more than one method of quantitation used to calculate sample results within a batch or 24 hr. analytical sequence? ___ ___

17.5 Did the lab report the target compounds below CRQLs with the suffix "J"? ___ ___

ACTION: When appropriate, include suffix "J".

18.0 Internal Standard (Form VIII/Equivalent)

18.1 Are the 3 internal standard areas (Form VIII) of every sample, LCS, PE, and blank within the upper and lower limits (+40% to -40%) for each continuing calibration or 10 ppbv level of initial calibration? ___ ___

ACTION: List all the outliers below.

Sample #	Internal Std	Area	Lower Limit	Upper Limit
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

ACTION: 1. If the internal standard area count is outside the limit, flag all positive results quantitated with this internal standard with a "J."

2. Non-detects associated with IS area

counts > 40% are not qualified.

3. If IS area is below the lower limit (< 40%), qualify all associated non-detects (U values) "J". If extremely low area counts are reported, (< 25%), or if performance exhibits a major abrupt drop off, flag all associated non-detects as unusable ("R").

18.2 Are the internal standard retention times in each sample, LCS, PE, and blank within 20 seconds of the corresponding retention times in the associated calibration standard?

☐ ☐ ☐

ACTION: Professional judgement should be used to qualify sample data if the internal standard retention times differ by more than 20 seconds.

19.0 Mass Spectral Interpretation/Identification

19.1 Are the Organic Analysis Data Sheets present with required header information on each page, for each of the following:

a. Samples and/or fractions as appropriate?

☐ ☐ ☐

b. Laboratory Control Samples?

☐ ☐ ☐

c. Blanks?

☐ ☐ ☐

19.2 Are the VOA Reconstructed Ion Chromatograms, the mass spectra for the identified compounds, and the data system printouts (quant. reports) included in the sample package for each of the following:

a. Samples and/or fractions as appropriate?

☐ ☐ ☐

b. Laboratory Control Samples

☐ ☐ ☐

c. Blanks?

☐ ☐ ☐

ACTION: If any data are missing, take action specified in 1.1 above.

19.3 Is chromatographic performance acceptable with respect to:

a. Baseline stability?

☐ ☐ ☐

- | | | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-----|-----|
| b. | Resolution? | <input type="checkbox"/> | ___ | ___ |
| c. | Peak shape? | <input type="checkbox"/> | ___ | ___ |
| d. | Full-scale graph (attenuation)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | ___ | ___ |
| e. | Other: _____? | <input type="checkbox"/> | ___ | ___ |

ACTION: Use professional judgement to determine the acceptability of the data.

- | | | | | |
|------|--|--------------------------|-----|-----|
| 19.4 | Are the lab-generated standard mass spectra of the identified compounds present for each sample? | <input type="checkbox"/> | ___ | ___ |
|------|--|--------------------------|-----|-----|

ACTION: If any mass spectra are missing, take action as specified in 1.1 above. If the lab does not generate its own standard spectra, document in the Contract Problems/Non-compliance section of the Data Assessment.

- | | | | | |
|------|---|--------------------------|-----|-----|
| 19.5 | Is the RRT of each reported compound within 0.06 RRT units of the standard RRT in the continuing calibration? | <input type="checkbox"/> | ___ | ___ |
|------|---|--------------------------|-----|-----|

- | | | | | |
|------|---|--------------------------|-----|-----|
| 19.6 | Are all ions present in the reference standard mass spectrum at a relative intensity greater than 10% also present in the sample mass spectrum? | <input type="checkbox"/> | ___ | ___ |
|------|---|--------------------------|-----|-----|

- | | | | | |
|------|---|--------------------------|-----|-----|
| 19.7 | Do sample and reference standard relative ion intensities agree within $\pm 20\%$? | <input type="checkbox"/> | ___ | ___ |
|------|---|--------------------------|-----|-----|

ACTION: Use professional judgement to determine acceptability of data. If it is determined that incorrect identifications were made, all such data should be rejected "R", flagged "N" (presumptive evidence of the presence of the compound) or changed to not detected "U" at the calculated detection limit. In order to be positively identified, the data must comply with the criteria listed in 19.5, 19.6, and 19.7

20.0 Field Duplicates

- | | | | | |
|------|---|--------------------------|-----|-----|
| 20.1 | Were any field duplicates submitted for VOA analysis? | <input type="checkbox"/> | ___ | ___ |
|------|---|--------------------------|-----|-----|

ACTION: Compare the reported results for field duplicates and calculate the relative percent difference.

ACTION: Note the RPD value in the data assessment.

DATA ASSESSMENT

This Data Assessment is based on USEPA Region II SOP HW- : Volatile Organics Analysis of Ambient Air in Canisters by Method TO-15, May 2004.

Case No. _____ SDG No. _____ LABORATORY: _____

SITE : _____

All data are valid and acceptable except those analytes which have been qualified with a "J" (estimated), "U"(non-detects), "R" (unusable), or "N" (presumptive). All action is detailed on the following sheets.

The following facts should be noted by all data users. First, the "R" flag means that the associated value is unusable. In other words, due to significant QC problems, the analysis is invalid and provides no information as to whether the compound is present or not. "R" values should not appear on data tables because they cannot be relied upon, even as a last resort. The second fact to keep in mind is that no compound concentration, even if it has passed all QC tests, is guaranteed to be accurate. Strict QC serves to increase confidence in data but any value potentially contains error. In addition the "N" flag shows that the analysis indicates the presence of an analyte for which there is presumption evidence to make a "tentative identification."

All actions are detailed below and on the attached sheets:

Overall Assessment:

Contract Non-Compliance:

Reviewer's
Signature:_____ Date:_____/_____/20__

Verified By:_____ Date:_____/_____/20__